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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

No Need for Hurry.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: After a contest fought upon broad and intelligent issues, entirely devoid of personal animosities, let all partisanship be cast aside to offer congratulations to the successful candidates upon their overwhelming victory. No campaign in the history of the Government ever was or could have been conducted with more charitable regard to the avoidance of personal abuse, which heretofore have characterized battles in the political arena. It is now the duty of every thoughtful citizen to cast his eye over the battlefield, and if possible ascertain the cause of this unprecedented sweeping victory. It must be calmly and carefully considered and analyzed, for to accept the result as a mere incident would be a tribute to indifference which could scarcely be accredited to a thinking nation.

Our question will now naturally be, What will the new administration do to convince the American people that their verdict of November 8 (confirming and vindicating Grover Cleveland's famous tariff proclamation of six years ago) was just? How will it demonstrate to the masses whose voices, rising from ocean to ocean like one grand echo, have not sounded the keynote for reform in vain?

Let us hope that no hasty measures for policy's sake will be adopted; for, if the Democratic party could patiently wait five or six years for a popular and unanimous approval of that eventful message, they surely need not attempt too speedily the readjustment of what they had considered iniquitous burdens on the masses.

It is a matter for sincere rejoicing that the main issue has been studied, debated and lectured upon for the past four years, taken up by eminent men of letters, and disseminated by them until every student was thoroughly imbued with the importance of this momentous question, one great evidence of this fact being the quiet determination of the voters, old and young, to proclaim their verdict for tariff reform at the polls, without the ephemeral display and enthusiasm deemed necessary in former campaigns.

We must not overlook the fact that this victory cannot have been achieved by the Democratic alone, for the Ohio and Indiana have given evidence of their support.

With the existing tariff, it is not surprising that they should have done so.

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forms are the best definition of the intents and purposes of the party.

The Republican party in convention on June 10, 1892, on the tariff, declared as follows: "We believe that all articles which cannot be produced in the United States, except luxuries, should be admitted free of duty, and that on all imports coming into competition with the products of American labor there should be duties levied equal to the difference between wages abroad and at home."

That is the Republican position. That is the position that was taken by that party in the enactment of the McKinley law. That is the policy that has been disapproved of by the people at this election.

What is the Democratic position? In convention at Chicago twelve days after the Republicans had defined their policy as set out above, they declared in their platform, "We denounce the Republican policy of protection as a fraud on the labor of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of the few."

We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the Federal Government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue only. There is not much protection in that. Nor is there a line in the whole platform favoring any species of protection. There was a day when the Democratic party claimed to be in favor of incidental protection, but they have abandoned even that. Nor can I find anywhere therein that wonderful conservatism of which my friend speaks. In fact, it is about as broad a declaration against all species of protection as can be framed.

If the Republican policy of equalizing the difference in wages through the tariff which affords protection against the cheaper labor is a "fraud" and "unconstitutional," according to the Democratic platform, what becomes of my friend's claim that the Democratic party propose to adjust the tariff on that line? Certainly the people do not so understand it. That is practically the situation now. The people have demanded a change; they have been promised almost everything in the shape of prosperity by the Democratic party under a policy of low tariff for revenue only. They now have given that party the power to put that policy in operation. No beating around the bush or dodging, such as my friend suggests, will be tolerated. The Republicans want good times and wish their opponents joy in their effort to better the present ones. We will await the result complacently. Let me suggest to my friend that it occurs to me he ought to read the party platforms before attempting to define the positions taken by an too severe; he may have been misled by the "cheapest" tariff plank which the Democracy of this country issued as the part of the party platform on that subject.

If a Democrat voted the Democratic ticket under the delusion that the party advocated what he claims, I pity him. He is on the wrong side of the fence. He seems by his doctrine to be a pretty fair Republican now, and doubtless will have his eyes fully open next time. Experience is a good teacher. I find I have taken so much space already I will let the rest of the article pass.

A REPUBLICAN.

The "Country Circus" at the Broadway C. B. Jefferson, Klaw & Erlanger's "Country Circus" pitches its tent on the stage of the Broadway Theatre, Monday, Nov. 21, for a limited engagement.

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